

Application/Control Number: 10/827,261
Art Unit: 3654
July 28, 2006
Page 4

Remarks

It is observed that the Examiner rejected claims 2, 3, 5, 6 and 7 as being indefinite for failing particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter the applicant regards as the invention.

The Examiner also rejected claims 1-7 as being unpatentable over Sainen (US 4,513,790).

According to the Examiner, Sainen does not disclose a comparator means adapted to compare a force signal with a reference signal in order to obtain a force error signal, wherein the control unit comprises means to emit a signal for driving the power supply of the motor according to the force error signal of the thread and to a signal that is the derivative with respect to time of the force signal emitted by the force sensor means.

However, according to the Examiner the above features would be not new and thus claim 1 would be obvious.

The applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner's opinion since on one hand it is true that Sainen does not disclose all the above listed features and on the other hand it is also true that the conventional controllers for motors in this field do also use the speed as a parameter.

In fact, as disclosed on page 2, lines 19-22, one of the objects of the invention is to provide a device and a method wherein the speed control is eliminated, thus using only one parameter to determine the gram force applied to the thread, i.e. the gram force error signal. The other signal that is used is not a real "second" signal since it is strictly derived by the gram force error signal, being its derivative with respect to time.

Thus, the control method of the present application is much more reliable and also quicker than conventional method implemented with conventional devices.

Application/Control Number: 10/827,261
Art Unit: 3654
July 28, 2006
Page 5

In view of the above, the applicant has amended claim 1 so as to recite that only one signal is used to drive the power supply of the motor.

On the contrary, Sainen, in addition to not disclosing all of the features that the Examiner himself recognized, also discloses the use of a real "second" signal, i.e the rotation rate of the motor.

In summary, Sainen just reflects the prior art solution that the applicant wishes to overcome, in order to improve the control device.

Thus, if the skilled man in the art would combine the teachings of Sainen with the common knowledge in the field of the controllers, he would not end up with the same arrangement of the applicant's claimed invention as claimed in new claim 1, since the speed parameter should also be used as taught by Sainen.

In view of the above, it is strongly believed that the amended claim 1 is both new and unobvious over the cited prior art.

In the same way, method claim 5 has been amended along the same line of claim 1 and such method claim 5 should also be considered as being allowable.

The applicant has also amended claims 2, 3 and 5 in order to overcome the Examiner's rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112.

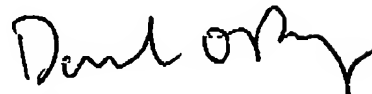
It will be noted that a sincere effort has been made to positively respond to all of the points raised by the Examiner.

The application is thus believed in an allowable condition.

While it is believed that the amended claims properly define the present invention, applicant would be open to any suggestion the Examiner may have concerning different claim phraseology which, in the Examiner's opinion, more accurately defines the present invention.

Application/Control Number: 10/827,261
Art Unit: 3654
July 28, 2006
Page 6

Respectfully submitted,



Daniel O'Byrne (Reg. No. 36,625)
Agent for Applicant

Date: July 28, 2006
Address: Via Meravigli 16, 20123 MILAN-ITALY
Telephone: (from USA) (011)(39)(02) 8590-7777
Telefax: (from USA)(011)(39)(02) 863-860